

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Extension of Formulas and Formatting in an Electronic Spreadsheet

Methods for automatically, without user instruction, extending a
5 format and/or a formula to include a cell in an electronic spreadsheet. A
previously blank newly edited cell may be determined to be an extension to or
within a list of cells. A list of cells may be defined as a number of previous
cells having a consistent data type. If a list of cells exists and the previously
blank newly edited cell also includes the consistent data type, the previously
10 blank newly edited cell is considered to be an extension of or within a list. The
cells in the list are then examined for consistent formatting. If consistent
formatting exists in the list, the consistent formatting is applied to the
previously blank newly edited cell. Also, the cells in the list are examined for
consistent formulas. The rows containing the cells in the list are each examined
15 for a consistent formula having all supporting cells populated. If such a
consistent formula is detected, it is applied to the row containing the previously
blank newly edited cell. Also, the spreadsheet is scanned for aggregating
formulas that reference the cells within the list. If an aggregating formula is
discovered, it is updated to include the value of the data stored in the previously
20 blank newly edited cell.

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